

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:GGBROWN:CEK

APPROVED BY NEA - MR SAUNDERS

S/S - FVORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171626

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL RESTRICTIONS

1. U.S. FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION NOTIFIED BY AMERICAN EXPORT LINES (AEL) THAT IT RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE FROM EGYPTIAN AEL REP - QUOTE JULY 12 - FERRONI - AEL, TAWIL - ALEXSHIP. PORT AUTHORITIES CANAL ZONE REQUEST SUBMIT CERTIFICATE FROM AEL STIPULATING ALL VESSELS CROSSING SUEZ CANAL IN FUTURE WILL NOT CALL ANY ISRAELIAN PORT OR CO-OPERATE WITH ISRAELIAN AUTHORITIES. THIS CERTIFICATE SHOULD BE APPROVED BY EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN USA. PLEASE FORWARD THE CERTIFICATE SOONEST TO US. UNQUOTE. IN REPLY TO AEL CABLE ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION ON NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY AEL, SECOND CABLE SENT BY AEL REP. QUOTE - JULY 16 - ONE CERTIFICATE REQUIRED TO COVER ALL AEL VESSELS TRANSITING SUEZ CANAL IN FUTURE. VESSELS' NAMES SHOULD BE STATED IN THE DECLARATION. ALSO, AEL COMPANY WILL NOT COOPERATE WITH ISRAELIAN AUTHORITIES AND HER SHIPS WILL NOT CALL AT ANY ISRAELIAN PORT. PLEASE ARRANGE TO FORWARD TO ALEXSHIP, WITH COPY TO GENOA, A REQUIRED STATE-CONFIDENTIAL

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MENT DULY LEGALIZED BY THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

UNQUOTE.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY MAKE DISCREET INQUIRY WITH AEL REP IN

EGYPT TO ASCERTAIN SPECIFIC LANGUAGE IN THE EGYPTIAN REQUIREMENT AND TO ASCERTAIN UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY THIS REGULATION IS BEING PUT FORTH. REQUEST EMBASSY NOT REPEAT NOT DIRECTLY RAISE THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME WITH ANY GOE OFFICIALS. KISSINGER

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